

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-10 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NIC-01 SCCT-01 SY-04

OPR-01 A-01 CU-02 PER-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 OC-01

CCO-00 USSS-00 /074 W

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O 110806Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8902

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

CINCPAC HI PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 3452

HONG KONG PASS AMBASSADOR OSBORN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT BM

SUBJ: SCATTERED OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE IN RANGOON

1. CONTINUED SCATTERED OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE ARE TAKING PLACE IN RANGOON INCLUDING DOWNTOWN AREA AS MOBS, NOT LIMITED TO STUDENTS, DEMONSTRATE FOLLOWING CLEARANCE OF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS EARLY MORNING OF DECEMBER 11. THERE HAS BEEN FIRING AND SOME CASUALTIES HAVE OCCURRED. AS OF 1400 LOCAL, PERSONNEL OF MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICES HAD DEPARTED, WITH OR WITHOUT SUPERVISORS' PERMISSION, ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL CLOSURE.

2. BETWEEN 1300 AND 1400 MOB MOVED EAST ALONG BOGYOKE AUNG SAN STREET (PARALLEL TO AND SOUTH OF RAILROAD TRACKS DOWNTOWN) DESTROYING SOME GOVERNMENT SHOPS AND OFFICES, AND SETTING FIRE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL HOUSING BOARD BUILDING. IT HAS BEEN ENGAGED WITH GUNFIRE

BY TROOPS ON GUARD ROUND OFFICE OF MINISTERS (OLD SECRETARIAT).

3. ALTHOUGH VIOLENCE ON THIS SCALE WAS DOUBTLESS UNEXPECTED BY GUB, ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING ITS EFFICIENT HANDLING OF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SITUATION, WE DO NOT EXPECT THE PRESENT OUTBREAKS TO

REACH ANY LEVEL WHICH GUB IS UNABLE TO CONTROL. ADDITIONAL TROOPS HAVE BEEN MOVED INTO DOWNTOWN AREA, INCLUDING FORCES AT CITY HALL ONE BLOCK FROM EMBASSY AND TROOPS AND TANKS AT BSPP HEADQUARTERS IMMEDIATELY BEHIND EMBASSY. WE CONTINUE TO FORESEE NO DANGER OTHER THAN ACCIDENTAL TO U.S. PERSONNEL OR PROPERTY.

4. FOR BANGKOK AND HONG KONG: IF QUERIED ABOUT TRAVEL TO RANGOON BY U.S. NATIONALS, SUGGEST YOU DISCOURAGE IT UNTIL SITUATION CLARIFIES. WE WOULD ALSO PREFER NO OFFICIAL TRAVELLERS AT LEAST IN NEXT FEW DAYS.
LACEY

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Message Attributes

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